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**Funding Requested:** 2 years \$120,000  
(\$60,000 per year)

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**WORKPLAN**

**I. Project Title and Project Purpose Statement**

**Project Title:** Protecting Our Water Ways: Overcoming Jurisdictional and Rural Barriers to Reduce Illegal Dumping on the Nez Perce Reservation.

**Location:** Nez Perce Tribe Reservation, Lapwai Creek Watershed.  
Tribal Headquarters in Lapwai, Idaho, 83540

**Purpose Statement:**

The Nez Perce Tribe (Tribe) desires to reduce illegal waste dumping activities that negatively impact the residents of the Lapwai Creek Watershed within the Nez Perce Reservation of north central Idaho. The Lapwai Creek Watershed is a rural area encompassing 171,000 acres. The remote nature of many areas of the watershed combined with its complex layers of overlapping jurisdictions creates significant barriers to monitoring and addressing illegal dumping, which poses a high risk of polluting the watershed. This complex

multijurisdictional setting has unintentionally contributed to inaction on this issue by entities in the Lapwai Creek Watershed tasked with protecting water, soil, and other natural resources.

The goals of this project are to reduce and remediate illegal dumping, build and strengthen interagency cooperation, and provide information and resources to residents about solid waste disposal options. We will reduce illegal dumping by increasing communication and data sharing and by coordinating strategic enforcement activities among jurisdictions; by providing accurate policy information, education, and resources; and by using community clean-up demonstrations to promote environmentally sound waste disposal behaviors. The project will identify and assess existing illegal dumps in the Lapwai Creek Watershed and formulate waste diversion strategies to capture as much of the waste as possible by creating successful alternatives to illegal dumping. A GIS assessment will identify priority areas of the watershed for protection and clean up. The resulting assessment and collected data will help guide policy development on open and illegal dumps and improper disposal that can be used and enforced by reservation, federal, state, and local entities.

The Solid Waste Disposal Act will be the Tribe's primary federal statute guiding efforts to improve waste disposal monitoring and waste reduction education as well as to develop and identify proper waste disposal options that meet the needs of the residents and organizations in the Lapwai Creek Watershed. This proposal will address the following federal environmental statutes, with an underlying emphasis on the Solid Waste Disposal Act:

1. Solid Waste Disposal Act, by identifying, mapping and remediating existing open dump sites that have accumulated carcasses, household solid waste and hazardous waste, and by gathering stakeholder input to identify and prioritize solid waste disposal options.
2. Clean Water Act, by educating reservation residents on the need to eliminate water pollution via point and non-point sources through runoff (e.g. from illegal or open dumps) in rural ravines and domestic storm drainage.
3. Toxic Substances Control Act, by educating the community about our natural resources that need to be protected from toxic materials, the importance of properly disposing chemical substances and by providing convenient options for disposal identified and prioritized using stakeholder input.

Solid waste management within the project area is complex, requiring cooperation and coordination among numerous entities representing a variety of economic, social, cultural, and environmental interests. At the same time, this complexity allows for a diverse partnership that will lead to more widespread and sustainable project outcomes. Key project partners include the Public Health District II of Idaho, Lewis County, Nez Perce County, and University of Idaho. Other targeted project partners include: Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services, Idaho Dept. of Environmental Quality National Park Services, Nez Perce Tribe Office of Legal Counsel, and the Nez Perce Tribe Department of Natural Resources, which consists of the Land Services, Cultural Resources, Wildlife Resources, Forest Resources, Water Resources, and Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Divisions.

## **II. Environmental and Public Health Information about the Affected Community**

The ancestral homeland of the Nez Perce Tribe is located within the mid-Columbia River Basin and covers approximately 25% of the present day state of Idaho. The Nez Perce Tribe is a federally recognized Tribe pursuant to the Treaty of 1855 (12 Stat.951). Under this Treaty, the

Nez Perce Reservation was designated for the exclusive use and benefit of the Nez Perce (BIA, 1998). The Lapwai Creek Watershed primarily lies within reservation boundaries. The word Lapwai comes from the Nez Perce word “lap lap,” which refers to the sounds made by a butterfly’s wings. Due to the abundance of butterflies in times past, the area is also referred to as the “Valley of Butterflies.”

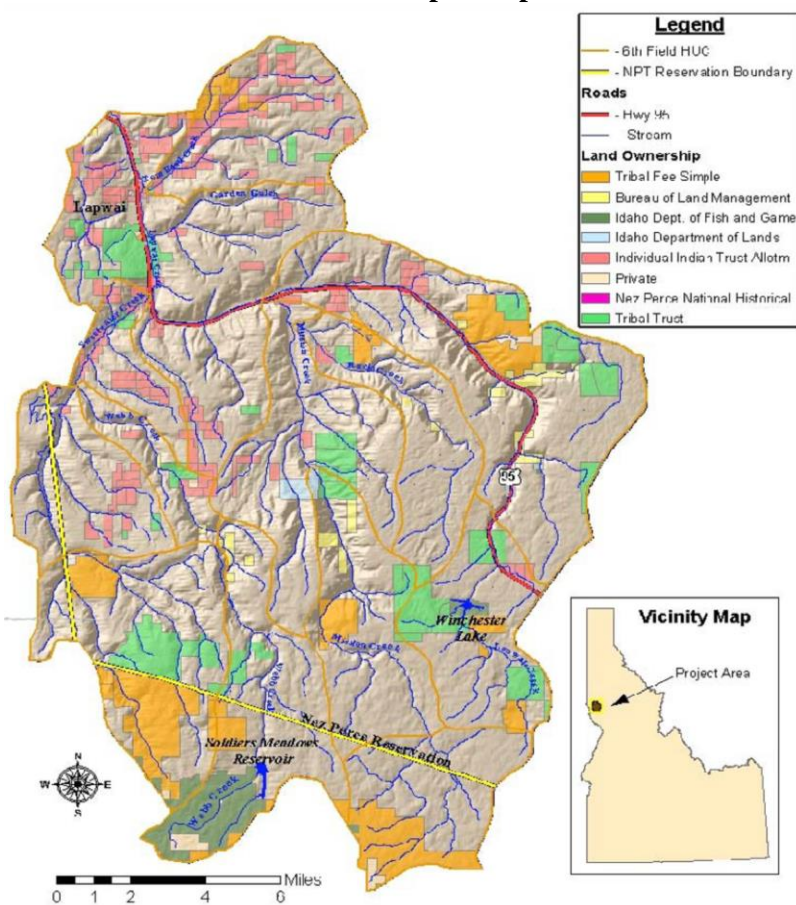
The reservation landscape that encompasses the Lapwai Creek Watershed is very diverse with equal portions of mountains, forests, range lands, and rich agricultural lands. The primary industries are agriculture and forestry. Communities on the reservation have a wealth of cultural history and diversity; however, the reservation is also an impoverished area with unique environmental and health issues caused by past forestry activities, tillage agriculture and grazing.

The Tribe inherited a long history of land degradation due, in part, to logging industry forest clear-cutting practices and the use of water sources for storage and transport of chemically treated logs. Logging practices have since been regulated to prohibit practices that introduce contaminants into the environment; however, in many areas adjacent to the Lapwai Creek Watershed, the landscape has been left barren and prone to runoff. Furthermore, much of the land has been converted to agricultural use, which also creates surface drainage issues that impact the Lapwai Creek Watershed. Map 1 provides the geographic context of mixed land ownership and numerous governmental, private, and tribal stakeholders in the Lapwai Creek Watershed.

Waste is frequently illegally dumped in open dumps on or near roads and in watershed ravines that affect the ground waters of reservation communities. This project will create needed partnerships with Nez Perce and Lewis Counties to help identify, monitor, and investigate persons responsible for illegal dumping within the Lapwai Creek Watershed and to develop solutions that transcend jurisdictional boundaries. Some of the open dumps are not large enough to be considered “illegal dumps” by the EPA, but still pose problems and attract further dumping.

Dumpsters that have been put out for use by tribal housing residents are being used illegally by non-tribal community members and commercial operations and have become expensive and time

**Map 1: Lapwai Creek Watershed**



Source: Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

consuming to maintain. Maintaining these dumpster sites costs approximately \$50,000 per year. This expense is anticipated to jump next year with an increase in tipping fees charged by the transfer stations and inhibits the Nez Perce Tribe's Solid Waste Program (SWP) from developing an economically sustainable program. The Tribe's Solid Waste Management Code includes enforcement and penalties for illegal dumping. Unfortunately, the reservation's "checkerboard" land ownership pattern has resulted in jurisdiction issues that have hindered efforts by the Tribe to enforce its regulations against offenders.

Although there is a need for outreach and education to increase active recycling, reduce solid waste, and eliminate illegal dumping, the lack of funding has prevented effective education outreach to the community. Currently there are minimal educational outreach resources and few facilities for proper waste disposal. Inadequate infrastructure, high disposal costs, and long transportation distances create economic and convenience incentives for illegal dumping. The lack of a policy framework and enforcement has created the conditions for illegal dumping to flourish. Mixed waste is being dumped in the most sensitive areas of the Lapwai Creek Watershed in terms of human health, salmon and steelhead restoration, and water quality. While considerable work has been done in the watershed to map and clean up illegal dumps, and to improve water quality as part of fisheries habitat programs, an assessment is needed to identify sensitive areas and to prioritize areas for cleanup, protection, and enforcement.

Identified factors contributing to illegal dumping include: a lack of environmentally friendly and cost-effective alternatives for solid waste disposal; the absence of an effective policy framework; the absence of proper waste disposal education for individuals; and the lack of coordination and communication among local, tribal, state, and federal entities regarding illegal dumping. These gaps indicate the need to increase knowledge, change behaviors, build capacity, and develop a coordinated effort among partners. Coordination with counties and municipalities through Memorandums of Agreement will assist with ensuring that state and tribal laws are consistently enforced.

### **Community Characteristics**

The proposed project focuses on eleven rural communities within the 171,000 acres of the Lapwai Creek Watershed which lies predominantly in Nez Perce County with some headwaters in Lewis County. The Nez Perce Reservation is located in a rural, isolated, and economically distressed area of north central Idaho, more than 200 miles from the urban centers of Boise, Idaho, and Spokane, Washington. There are townships located within the Lapwai Creek Watershed with small populations that do not have facilities for disposal nor policies or codes to enforce proper waste disposal practices. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, a population of 18,437 is clustered around the various towns and cities within the reservation. The rural communities include Lapwai (tribal headquarters, population 1,137), Winchester (population 340), Culdesac (380), Sweetwater (143), and the communities of Reubens, Webb, Forest, Waha, Spalding, and Slickpoo, each with populations of less than 100.<sup>1</sup>

According to the Nez Perce Tribe's Annual General Council Report, approximately 3,500 enrolled members of the Nez Perce Tribe live in US EPA Region 10. Seventy percent of tribal members reside on the Nez Perce Reservation, located in the heart of the traditional land of the Nez Perce people. Approximately 78% of Lapwai's population identifies as Native American, 38% of Sweetwater's population are Native American, and the remaining communities range

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<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau / American FactFinder. "2010 Demographic Profile." 2008 – 2012 American Community Survey. U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey Office, 2012. Web. Retrieved February 12, 2014.

between 1% and 16% Native American. Overall, the Nez Perce Reservation is 13% Native American, much higher than the state or national figure of 1% or less.

These communities also have much lower than average median household incomes. Overall, average median household incomes in the area are well below state averages, with \$37,955 for Lapwai, and \$39,401 for the reservation in general compared to \$47,015 for Idaho, and \$53,046 for the United States. The other communities have similar or lower income levels, with the exception of Sweetwater (\$46,563). Additionally, poverty rates range from 23-35% and are much higher than the state rate of 15%. Unemployment rates in the project area range from 4-26%, some are over twice the state rate of 9%. See Table 1 for more demographic information.

Through the lens of environmental justice, the affected population is comprised of above-average numbers of individuals and families living in poverty, due in large part to low-incomes and high unemployment rates. While many communities in the watershed have a large Native American population, the significance of decreasing illegal dumping to provide access to safe and clean drinking water goes beyond race, ethnicity, income, or education levels. The remoteness and rurality of the Lapwai Creek Watershed combined with the conflicting and overlapping checkerboard jurisdiction pattern are the primary factors explaining why area residents are underserved. This complex setting has inhibited enforcement of illegal dumping while remote dumpsites are easily overlooked since they are well out of sight of the majority of the population. This program will help improve multijurisdictional coordination, increase community education on the importance of proper solid waste disposal and impacts of illegal dumping, and gather meaningful input from residents to develop waste disposal solutions that will really meet their needs.

**Table 1. Project Area Demographics**

Geography	Population	% Native American (Alone)	% White (Alone)	Median HH Income	Poverty rate	Unemployment rate (age 16+)	No high school diploma (age 25+)
	2010	2010	2010	2008-2012	2008-2012	2008-2012	2008-2012
<b>Communities</b>							
Lapwai	1,137	78%	17%	\$37,955	23%	20%	12%
Sweetwater	143	38%	61%	\$46,563	31%	26%	19%
Culdesac	380	16%	83%	\$30,000	33%	23%	20%
Winchester	340	3%	92%	\$32,917	24%	4%	19%
Reubens	71	1%	97%	\$39,583	35%	11%	5%
<b>Reservation</b>							
Nez Perce Reservation	18,437	13%	83%	\$39,401	17%	11%	13%
<b>Reservation census tracts</b>							
Nez Perce 9400	4,601	36%	61%	\$44,102	16%	15%	13%
Lewis 9400.01	1,727	8%	85%	\$31,174	19%	11%	17%
Lewis 9400.02	2,058	3%	95%	\$41,500	15%	4%	7%
<b>Counties</b>							
Lewis County	3,821	5%	90%	\$37,340	17%	7%	12%
Nez Perce County	39,265	6%	90%	\$45,587	12%	7%	11%
<b>State of Idaho</b>							
State of Idaho	1,567,582	1%	89%	\$47,015	15%	9%	11%
<b>United States</b>							
United States	308,745,538	1%	72%	\$53,046	15%	9%	14%

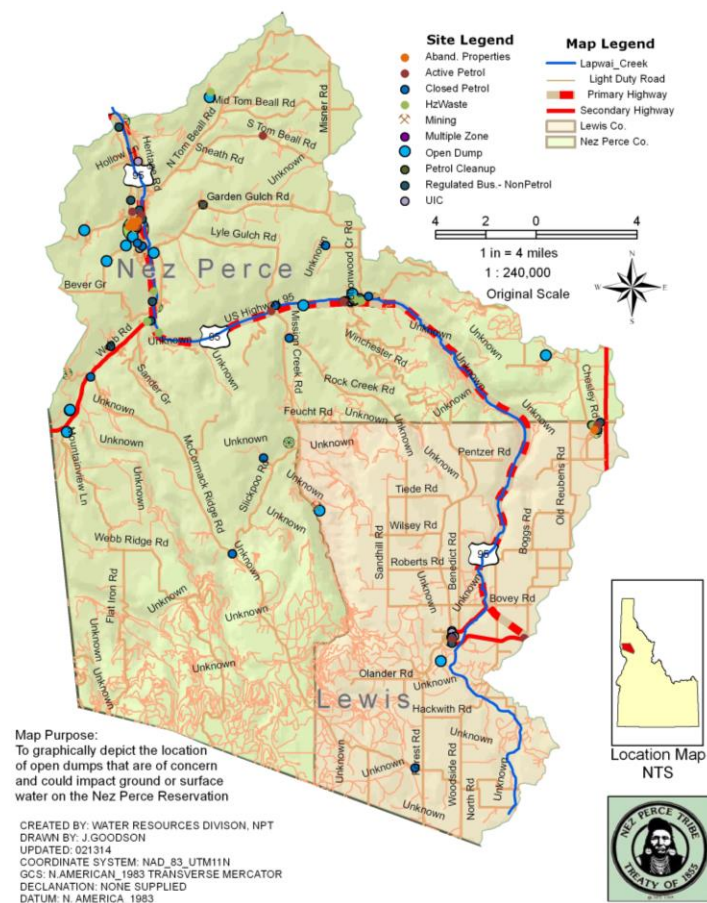
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (2010 Decennial Census, 2008-2012 American Community Survey) Retrieved 2.11.2014



While considerable mapping and cleanup of open dumps in the Lapwai Creek Watershed has occurred, a high need still exists to build on these efforts through a systematic assessment and planning effort. The full extent of the environmental impacts and potential risks of open dumps in the area is not known. The problem continues to escalate as small open dumps accumulate more waste and grow into larger dumps that are more difficult to clean up and pose greater risks to public and environmental health. Identifying and mapping these dump sites will be first steps to help address potential ground and surface water contamination from runoff and seepage. See Map 2.

In part due to the appeal of the rural setting, communities within the watershed are experiencing an increase in residential development. The trend of population growth and residential development will only increase the amount of solid waste and potential for illegal dumping if legal waste disposal alternatives are not provided.

The Nez Perce Reservation already has 13,857 residential units and 2,710 businesses and firms producing and potentially improperly disposing of unknown quantities of toxic/hazardous waste. Experience in the project area suggests that some residents may simply not understand the danger of materials that they associate with common household use. Many residents in the project area have few legal options for the disposal of hazardous waste. Furthermore, environmental practices of some businesses in the area may be lax due to the perception that they will not be monitored or that the law will not be enforced in such a remote area. They may also believe they can get away with more environmentally harmful practices because discovery of the contamination or harm may not occur until much later, allowing the trail of responsibility to disappear. Due to the rural location of businesses, better business practices should include proper disposal of wastes.



**Map 2. Inventory of Open Dumps on the Lapwai Creek Watershed.**

### **III. Organization's Historical Connection to the Affected Community**

Through the Nez Perce Tribe's biannual General Council meetings, tribal members participate in the political process by expressing their concerns to the elected tribal leaders who then address issues through tribal programs and staff actions. Tribal members are able to propose policy, make recommendations, and express their needs about tribal resources. The Tribe's Water Resources Division has done education and outreach with communities in the watershed through the Solid Waste Program and the Utilities Program, including activities related to siting underground storage tanks, leaking underground storage

tanks, and non-point source pollution programs. Outreach and education has been delivered through various communication opportunities, including participation in environmental fairs, General Council meetings, education fairs, Environmental Education Committee participation, website announcements, and requests for comments on policy issues. The Water Resources Division has a meaningful open-door policy with tribal members and communities that have direct involvement with the Tribe.

The SWP has been actively involved with communities on the reservation to promote environmental protection. In 2009 and 2010, the SWP hosted Earth Day events in the cities of Kamiah, Lapwai and Orofino to beautify community centers with landscaping, host a community barbecue, and organize a volunteer clean-up of city streets and bulky wastes. The Earth Day events were very helpful in creating partnerships with each city council and the communities advertised events together to make a more robust outcome. In 2013, the SWP hosted household hazardous waste (HHW) collection events in coordination with the aforementioned cities and the City of Nezperce. The SWP services were also featured in all event advertising. The HHW events consisted of community workshops to learn about HHW, alternative green cleaning, and appropriate practices to protect health within the home. These events opened the door for community involvement and increased participation in recycling and other waste management activities and awareness of potential environmental contamination from improper waste disposal.

In 2007, the Tribe conducted an Integrated Solid Waste Master Plan (SWMP) for all tribal facilities, five rural counties, and eighteen rural communities. These communities collected a substantial amount of useful data and formed partnerships to collect the data needed to develop future waste management plans. The SWMP was created as a result of a partnership with the five counties that encompass the reservation: Nez Perce, Lewis, Latah, Clearwater, and Idaho. This organization is called the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC), which has been facilitated by the Public Health Idaho North Central District II. The RSWAC identified limited funding for educational outreach and rising fuel costs to transport waste out of the region to lawful landfills as significant barriers to proper waste disposal. Each county strives to make recycling available but there is a lack of awareness and opportunity to implement recycling on a larger scale.

The Tribe successfully closed four illegal dumps on the reservation in 2006 and 2007 when the reservation cities did not have curbside sanitation services. Today, even despite curbside garbage pick-up for reservation residents, the Tribe and the Environmental Protection Agency have identified ten illegal dumps in ravines, water ways, and within cultural landmarks. This proposal is projected to identify more illegal dumps, provide educational outreach, and develop written recommendations and solutions for communities and businesses within the reservation to help combat illegal dumping.

For solid waste management on the reservation to be sustainable, the overall amount of waste must be minimized, through waste reduction, diversion, and recycling, and illegal dumping must be eliminated. The Nez Perce Tribe built a recycling center in 2013 to collect and process recyclable materials. Increasing visibility and reach of the recycling program is a significant method to reduce overall waste disposal.

#### **IV. Project Description**

This project will reduce illegal dumping and its impacts in the Lapwai Creek Watershed and other waste streams impacting human health and water quality on the Nez Perce Reservation. Through the project's efforts, the communities within the Lapwai Creek Watershed

will learn the importance of proper solid waste disposal, waste reduction, and recycling. The Nez Perce Tribe will have an up-to-date solid waste and illegal dumping assessment of the Lapwai Creek Watershed, and a working guidance document for developing policy improvements and identifying needed resources. This project will encourage proper solid waste management in day-to-day activities at home and work. It will create a sustainable program that protects community health, individual and family well-being, and culture. Many of these activities will build on the EPA's *Illegal Dumping Prevention Guidebook: Cleanup, Community Outreach and Involvement, Targeted Enforcement, Tracking and Evaluation*.<sup>2</sup>

Partners are geographically linked via the Lapwai Creek Watershed. The Tribe will work with partners that provided memorandums of agreement and supporting organizations to help bolster the data collection and provide a more robust outcome of useable data. Participation by Lewis and Nez Perce Counties is crucial in sharing current and past financial data and current waste management programs within the Counties' boundaries, which encompasses the entire Lapwai Creek Watershed. The Public Health District II of Idaho will work with the Tribe to investigate illegal dumping within the watershed and help identify potential health risks that may be identified. The two counties and the Public Health District will work together at quarterly meeting discuss the findings compiled by the Tribe from all other entities.

Partnering with the University of Idaho will help the Tribe accomplish outcomes in a systematic and scientific approach by assessing and mapping the data from illegal dumping, providing a law student to work on policy documentation, providing a "Train the Trainer" method of teaching communities about proper disposal of waste, and creating marketing and educational materials to achieve grant outcomes. Other partnerships identified in support letters to the Tribe include the National Park Service of the Nez Perce National Historic Park and the Lewis Soil Conservation District. These two organizations sought involvement because they have a stake in the health of the Lapwai Creek Watershed. They will provide monitoring and water quality samples that may be beneficial for identifying key problematic locations of illegal dumping and identifying contaminants of concern. While all the partnerships and supporting organizations are currently in support of this project, the Tribe will work to identify additional strategic partnerships for future assessments, monitoring and problem solving of waste dumping.

Because the affected communities are small and remotely located, access to solid waste disposal options is limited. Rising fuel costs make the proper removal of solid waste from the area expensive. The Nez Perce Tribe Solid Waste Program (SWP) would like to develop a model tribal programs, rural communities, and governmental entities can use to reduce illegal dumping and foster community involvement to plan for proper disposal options that address the context-specific wastes such as livestock or wild game carcasses, appliances, tires, and other hazardous materials. In addition to developing assessment and planning resources, policy recommendations and changes, and increasing enforcement coordination, this project will include educational efforts targeting residents in the Lapwai Creek Watershed. A key strategy to reduce illegal dumping is to reduce, recycle, and reuse much more of the overall waste stream, including free or low cost alternatives for problem wastes. Combining new and improved disposal options, education, policy development, and enforcement coordination is a comprehensive approach that addresses identified barriers to proper waste disposal.

Through partnerships with schools, health departments, housing authorities, and internally with other tribal programs, the SWP will offer training sessions for individuals, give

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<sup>2</sup> United States Environmental Protection Agency. (1998). *Illegal Dumping Prevention Guidebook*. Retrieved from [http://www.epa.gov/region5/waste/illegal\\_dumping/downloads/il-dmpng.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/region5/waste/illegal_dumping/downloads/il-dmpng.pdf).



presentations, and hand out information at community events, fairs, and K-12 classrooms. A short informational video on the impacts of illegal dumping on our environment and health will be produced and shared with the reservation community, governmental agencies, and other rural communities looking to address illegal dumping issues.

Community involvement is an important component of project success. A survey of residents in the Lapwai Creek Watershed will be conducted to evaluate knowledge of waste issues, attitudes toward illegal dumping, barriers to proper waste disposal, and willingness to use waste minimization, recycling, and proper waste disposal practices. This project will also include two “Community Clean-up Days” that will enhance awareness of the importance of proper waste disposal and increase visibility of the Tribe’s recycling center. The Tribe’s SWP, in conjunction with UI staff, will solicit stakeholder feedback using one-on-one interviews and facilitated group meetings to determine priorities and identify convenient, effective solutions.

Overall, the residents in the watershed will have more knowledge of the environmental impacts of illegal dumping and improper waste disposal on the watershed. Residents will gain awareness and the ability to make a difference for their community and future generations on environmental sustainability, community health, and a cleaner, safer, and more traditional way of life—a life committed to taking care of the environment in which the individual is just a small part.

While informing solid waste disposal policy, providing education, increasing awareness and empowering individual community members to promote a stronger and healthier living environment, partnerships among Lapwai Creek Watershed entities will be strengthened and a framework for dealing with future issues within the reservation will be established. This project will directly benefit the residents within the Lapwai Creek Watershed and all project partners by creating sustainable solutions to environmental and public health issues and establishing stronger communication and collaboration among jurisdictional parties. All communities, businesses, and residents within the Nez Perce Reservation will greatly benefit from the reduction and remediation of illegal dumping. Furthermore, this project will provide a model that can be implemented across the reservation. Other tribes or rural communities wanting to address proper waste disposal can also use this project as a model.

The future and sustainability of the project depends on building a successful collaboration between participating entities in order to see the benefits that will result from project activities. Engaging the partners via quarterly meetings will be key in building this mutually beneficial relationship. Our first step will be to identify and share key data among partners. Consistent and clear communication among watershed partners is key to gather necessary data for analysis and identify practical solutions to propose to leadership.

### ***Objectives***

1. Establish new partnerships among key entities within the Lapwai Creek Watershed and on the Nez Perce Reservation.
2. Identify and assess open and illegal dumps in the Lapwai Creek Watershed.
3. Increase collaboration among multiple jurisdictions within the Lapwai Creek Watershed on the Nez Perce Reservation to help monitor, prevent and remediate open and illegal dumping.
4. Map existing open and illegal dumps using GPS coordinates and linked to pictures and descriptions. GIS layers will include soil quality, soil slope, roads, waterways, land cover, and other relevant data to guide interagency prioritization for clean-up and enforcement.

5. Involve stakeholders in the Lapwai Creek Watershed to assess knowledge of appropriate solid waste disposal practices and to identify the locations and number of solid waste disposal sites needed to prevent illegal dumping.
6. Work with project partners to develop a plan for data coordination and sharing among multiple jurisdictions.
7. Create education and outreach materials (print, website, traditional and social media) to increase awareness and provide resources for residents and businesses in the Lapwai Creek Watershed and nearby areas.
8. Inventory and summarize overlapping local, county, state, federal, and tribal laws and policies to provide a concise and informative description of the policy context
9. Develop, evaluate, and/or update solid waste disposal and water protection policies for area municipalities and tribal programs including instructions on investigating and identifying potential contaminants from open/illegal dumping.
10. Initiate and coordinate a discussion among agencies with enforcement and outreach responsibilities in the Lapwai Creek Watershed and the reservation about roles, responsibilities, and coordination of services.
11. Implement two community clean-up demonstration projects.

## Project Activities

### Key Tasks

#### Year 1

ACTIVITIES	Responsible Parties	QTR.	START	STOP
1) Meet Quarterly with Partnership	Partnership and Tribe	1-4	Oct. 2014	Cont.
2) Assess Lapwai Creek Watershed with Partnership data, coordinate monitoring and data collection	Partnership and Tribe	2-4	Jan. 2015	Sept. 2015
3) Document existing data collection practices. Ex. Waste Stream Analysis and monitoring	Partnership and Tribe	1-2	Oct. 2014	Apr. 2015
4) GIS coordination	University of Idaho and Tribe	1-4	Oct. 2014	Sept. 2015
5) Assess jurisdictional boundaries and current enforcement activities.	University of Idaho and Tribe	1-3	Oct. 2014	June 2015
6) Process community information gathering. I.e.: survey, interviews. To determine needs priorities and solutions	Tribe, planner	1-4	Oct. 2014	Sept. 2015
7) Develop informational packet on jurisdiction, decision making, enforcement and management of solid waste	University of Idaho law student and Tribe	1-4	Oct. 2014	Sept. 2015
8) Evaluation data for year 1, identify priorities and implement recommendations	University of Idaho and Tribe	1-4	Oct. 2014	Sept. 2015
9) Complete, document, and publicize at least one illegal dumpsite community clean-up	University of Idaho and Tribe	4	July 2015	Sept. 2015
10) Develop video on process of illegal identification	Partnerships and Tribe	1-4	Oct. 2014	Cont.

## Year 2

ACTIVITIES	Responsible Parties	QTR.	START	STOP
1) Meet Quarterly with Partnership	Partnerships and Tribe	1-4	Oct. 2015	Sept. 2016
2) Communicated with communities on proper waste disposal and locations to dispose	University of Idaho and Tribe	1-3	Oct. 2015	June 2016
3) Consult on waste management strategies	Tribe, University of Idaho and Rick Finch	1-3	Oct. 2015	June 2016
4) Use “Train the Trainer” methodology to bolster solid waste management efforts with partnerships and communities	Partnerships and Tribe	2-4	Jan. 2015	Sept. 2016
5) Complete, document, and publicize at least one illegal dumpsite community clean-up	University of Idaho and Tribe	4	July 2016	Sept. 2016
6) Test, complete and distribute educational video document	Jason Goldammer, University of Idaho and Tribe	1-4	Oct. 2015	Sept. 2016

The Water Resources Division will use its website as a media outlet for community members to access updates on facility locations, project results, and community participation in the development of solid waste and recycling programs. The communities will learn proper disposal methods for potentially harmful toxins and chemicals, existing infrastructure for solid waste disposal, and will gain recommendations for additional disposal sites.

The Nez Perce Tribe (NPT) has partnered with the University of Idaho Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) to bring university support to the project. By the end of the first year, the Tribe will work with Dr. Karen Humes, chair of the UI Geography Department, and a student intern to complete the assessment of the Lapwai Creek Watershed and map out priority sites. They will develop maps and educational materials related to wastes management in rural communities using data collected from participating entities. Maps will convey soil slope, soil type, vegetation, waterways, roads, and other relevant data to help prioritize waste remediation activities at existing dump sites.


An intern from the UI Law School’s Native American Law Emphasis, working closely with a member of the NPT Office of Legal Counsel, will research the multiple laws and policies related to solid waste disposal, water pollution, and illegal dumping for the various local, state, tribal, and federal entities in the watershed. The law intern will help develop a ‘primer’ on the various laws and research enforcement activities in the watershed. UI interns and project staff will participate in cultural competency training provided by the UI Office of Human Rights, Access and Inclusion before the students begin work with the NPT.

The OCP will help develop educational materials and assist with the survey of residents, tribal elders, and landowners. In the second year, a guidance document will be developed with the Tribe as a tool for policy development and implementation with the tribal government, tribal programs, other entities and local communities. Consultant Rick Finch will use the assessment from year one to provide guidance on how to handle prioritized wastes and assist in developing a strategic plan to reduce open and illegal dumps and to create infrastructure to handle local wastes in the future. Partners will continue to work toward providing education, coordinating waste disposal monitoring, and planning for disposal facilities and options for rural communities.

Follow-up interviews will be conducted with partners from governmental agencies and tribal elders to see if they felt satisfied that their insights and concerns were addressed in the project.

The Tribe has successfully completed multiple projects with direct tribal involvement, partnerships, and collaboration with numerous other tribal departments/facilities, as well as other public and private entities. We plan to utilize many of these same entities and individuals for the development and completion of this project. As we implement this project, we will gain a stronger working relationship with our partners and create a more sustainable relationship for future environmental projects.

***Project Performance Measures and Milestones***

<b>Time</b>	<b>Inputs</b>		<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b> 		
<b>Qtr.</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Short term</b>	<b>Medium Term</b>	<b>Long Term</b>
Q1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff time</li> <li>• Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• Saul, Mead, Gray</li> </ul>	Implement schedule and work-plan	Prepare to fulfill grant goals	Project is managed and deliverables are being met	Project is successful in meeting deliverables in a timely and effect way
Q1-Q3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• Tribal Depts.</li> <li>• Other agencies</li> <li>• Humes and intern (UI Geography)</li> <li>• Tribal Land Services</li> </ul>	Collect existing and create new data to assess and map open dumps and the watershed	Use partnerships to obtain data from relevant agencies	Use data to prioritize clean-up activities and targeted enforcement	Remediation of high-risk illegal dump sites
Q3-Q4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPT Counsel</li> <li>• UI Law Intern</li> </ul>	Identify existing codes, jurisdictions, and recommendations	Provide information to partner and tribal programs	Programs implement solid waste disposal and reduction in their offices	Policy is developed to better protect Lapwai Creek Watershed
Q2-Q4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Partners</li> <li>• Residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• UI Project Staff</li> <li>• Tribal Staff</li> <li>• Community residents</li> <li>• Other agencies</li> </ul>	Survey community members and agency partners	Identified needs, priorities and potential solutions	The Tribe provides more options for Solid Waste	The Tribe has a sustainable solid waste program.
Q3-Q8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tribal Depts.</li> <li>• Other agencies</li> <li>• Community members</li> </ul>	Sharing educational resources	Provide information to communities	Communities consider solid waste disposal options	Communities implement solid waste efforts
Q3-Q8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• Solid Waste</li> </ul>	Informational website	Provide access to	Increasingly robust	Increased efforts and information

		Program staff		resources	community involvement	exchanged
Q3-Q8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• Tribal Staff</li> <li>• UI Staff</li> <li>• Other agencies</li> </ul>	Education and outreach through multiple outlets	Increased educational coordination and activity	Research and project results are disseminated and Lapwai residents become informed	Illegal dumping decreases and proper solid waste disposal behavior increases.
Q5-Q8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Consultant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• Goldammer</li> </ul>	Outreach video	Media tool to inform public about environmental impact of illegal dumping	Better informed residents	Communities adopt better waste disposal behaviors and reduce solid waste
Q4, Q8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tribe staff</li> <li>• UI staff and students</li> <li>• Tribal members</li> <li>• Community residents</li> <li>• Other agencies</li> </ul>	Community Clean Up Events	Residents learn about the project, meet the staff, and clean up/recycle items	Participants learn about solid waste management and illegal dump sites and potential health and environmental harm	Recognizes the need to improve solid waste management and continue promoting recycling efforts.
Q6-Q8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Consultant</li> <li>• Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• Saul</li> <li>• Finch</li> <li>• Tribal staff</li> <li>• Other agencies</li> </ul>	Review and evaluate survey and research data	Partners understand needs, priorities and potential issues	Partners will identify feasible waste management strategies	Alternative disposal activities will be available for community residents.
Q6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Consultant</li> <li>• Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheaton</li> <li>• Finch</li> <li>• Saul</li> <li>• Other agencies</li> </ul>	Evaluate and develop plans for waste management	A strategic plan with priorities and next steps	Options and alternatives for waste disposal identified from	Illegal dump sites will be closed and remediated. Alternative disposal activities will be used.

#### **V. Organizational Capacity and Programmatic Capability**

The Nez Perce Tribe has extensive experience in successfully implementing environmental programs since the early 1990s. The Water Resources Division (WRD) will be the program directly responsible for this grant. The WRD has developed the Tribe's Solid Waste Program (SWP) for 10 years. During this time period the WRD has demonstrated the ability to administer solid waste management projects and programs in accordance with the provision of 7 CFR Part 1775. Below are federal grants that the WRD has obtained and successfully administered in previous years with the desired results:

- 2006 EPA Tribal Solid Waste Assistance Grant.



- 2013 EPA Household Hazardous Waste Collection Grant.
- 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 EPA General Assistance Program Funding for Solid Waste Capacity Development.
- 2010-2013 USDA Rural Development, recycling center
- 2004, 2006 USDA Rural Utilities Solid Waste Grant Award.
- 2004 USFS Rural Community Assistance Grant Award
- 2007, 2008, 2009 Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Fund Award

## **VI. Qualifications of the Project Manager**

Project staff has the experience and background to provide effective technical assistance. The Water Resources Planner, John Wheaton (Tribal member), will monitor activities and ensure that project tasks are completed on schedule, project activities and expenditures are allowable and within budget, and the necessary financial/narrative quarterly reports are completed and submitted to Rural Development. John Wheaton has worked for the WRD and managed grants through them since 2008. He coordinates the SWP, and helps develop or improve other utility programs. Wheaton is a member of the Energy Committee for the Tribe, the Tribe's representative for the EPA's region 10 Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network, and on the Infrastructure Task Force Steering Committee hosted by the EPA. He has a Bachelor's of Social Sciences degree from Portland State University, a Master's of Curriculum and Instruction and a Master's of Public Administration degrees from the University of Idaho. Wheaton has experience working with many tribal departments on recycling and solid waste, in providing trainings to individuals and small groups, in setting up the Nez Perce recycling center, and managing illegal dumping and other Solid Waste Programs for the Nez Perce Tribe.

Key personnel for this effort will be the Water Resources Division (WRD) Director, James Holt (Tribal member), will oversee the progress of this project. He began working for the Nez Perce Tribe as a Communication Specialist and has served as a member of the Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee. James previously worked for the Nez Perce Tribe Wildlife Program as a Conservation Botanist. The eighteen member Water Resources Division staff James manages will be utilized as necessary. James Holt is the WRD Director with over 10 years of administrative experience. He has a Bachelor's of Science in Natural Resources and a Master's in Natural Resources. He is the Nez Perce Tribe representative for the Regional Tribal Operation Committee, a former member of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, and currently serves on the steering committee for the Tribe's Snake River Basin Adjudication.

## **VII. Past Performance in Reporting on Outputs and Outcomes**

The Water Resources Department has received EPA funding through Environmental Justice Small Grants Program, Lead Outreach and Education, Underground Storage Tanks Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperation Agreement (DITCA), Comprehensive Environmental Response and Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA) 128(a)--Brownfields, Clean Water Act (CWA) 106--Water Quality Planning and Development, CWA 314--Clean Lakes, CWA 319--Nonpoint-Source, Indian General Assistance Program & Capacity Building--Solid Waste Management.

On past projects, quarterly progress and financial status reports were submitted to EPA, documenting progress on project deliverables. Semi-annual joint evaluations of performance were also conducted by EPA Project Officers and the Nez Perce Tribe. Results of these project reviews are submitted as quarterly and annual reports to EPA.

**VIII. Expenditure of Awarded Grant Funds**

The Nez Perce Tribe's Finance Office includes a Finance Manager, Accountants, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Payroll, and Grants Coordinator who assists with grant management and fiduciary responsibilities. The accountant who will administer this grant has been employed with the tribe for 35 years, working with accounting, budgeting, reporting, and fiscal management. The Finance office follows the Nez Perce Tribe Finance Manual, as well as Human Resource Manual, along with Office of Management and Budget Circulars. The Tribe is audited by an outside auditing agency on a yearly basis, and follows policies and procedures according to OMB A-133.

**IX. Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)**

This project will need to submit a Quality Assurance Project Plan if funded. The project will involve the use of: existing databases containing analytical data, existing historical research, and will create a new GIS database based on information gathered from/shared by participating agencies. Environmental decisions such as solid waste management program revisions and policy recommendations in the Lapwai Creek Watershed will be based on this data. The GIS database and tools we create will help assure outcomes are evidence-based, accessible, and of high quality. Quality assurance measures include broad review of the assessment and strategic plan by project partners. Survey and interview methods will be reviewed and approved by the University of Idaho Institutional Review Board. Follow-up interviews will be conducted with partners from governmental agencies and tribal elders to evaluate the success of the project.